

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:395

ANSWERED ON:28.02.2008

INCIDENTS OF LOOTING /THEFT /DACOITY IN THE TRAINS

Majhi Shri Parsuram;Murmu Shri Hemlal;Shakya Shri Raghuraj Singh;Singh Shri Dushyant

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the incident of looting, dacoity, theft, murder and other crimes in the trains have increased in the country recently;
- (b) the number of cases reported in each zones during the last three years, till date;
- (c) the details of financial losses suffered due to such crimes;
- (d) whether the Railway police force deployed in trains to check crime in trains are not adequate;
- (e) if so, the details thereof?
- (f) whether the Government have taken any effective steps to check completely the incident of crime in the trains; and (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS(SHRI R. VELU)

(a): No, Sir.

(b)&(c): The number of cases of looting, dacoity, theft, murder and other crimes reported in trains with details of financial losses suffered due to such crimes over Zonal Railways during the last three calendar years (till date) is appended.

(d)&(e): Yes, Sir. Only important trains are being escorted with the available strength of staff. All trains could not be escorted due to paucity of staff. Steps have been taken to augment the strength of RPF in consultation with Ministry of Finance.

(f)&(g): It is pertinent to mention that maintenance of law and order is a State subject and power to investigate in IPC crimes are vested with Police. Registration and detection of IPC crimes is the responsibility of Government Railway Police which works under the control of the State Governments and as such, Ministry of Railways has to depend largely on them for control of crime over Railways. In spite of the above fact, Railways is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in controlling crime on the Railways by deploying Railway Protection Force staff to escort trains for security of passengers.

The following preventive measures are being taken for the security of passengers:-

1. Important and affected mail / express trains are being escorted in coordination with GRP.
2. The train escorting parties are being briefed to remain extra vigilant in trains at the affected stations/sections.
3. Necessary announcements are frequently being made through Public Awareness System and use of loud hailers at the general coaches of the trains and during line bandobast to desist passengers for purchasing / accepting eatables from unauthorized hawkers and unknown persons while travelling by train or at the platform.
4. Regular coordination meetings are being conducted with State Police and Government Railway Police to discuss crime trends and formulate effective strategies to contain crimes.
5. Ladies' compartments of sub-urban trains are normally being escorted by GRP. Special Squads comprising women TTEs and women RPF personnel are deployed in vulnerable sub-urban sections, especially during the non-peak hours when likelihood of commission of crime against women is more.
6. Regular drives are conducted by RPF against male passengers travelling in ladies compartments and the offenders detected are prosecuted under the provisions of the Railways Act.